

Serial No. 09/903,704

Anthony Scott Moran

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Section I:
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the
CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended):

A method for extending and grouping actions and permissions for authorization of a requesting user to access or use a requested protected system resource in a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

providing an access control policy associated with said requested protected system resource, ~~said access control policy~~ containing a permission list of permitted identities for use of said protected system resource, ~~said permission list containing~~ and at least one action group tag ~~[[and]]~~ with associated action indicators;

reusing a finite quantity of action indicators among a plurality of action group tags to control a number of unique permissions less than or equal to the product of the quantity of allowable action indicators and a quantity of allowable action group tags;

evaluating said permission list according to a specific permission definition associated with said action group tag, said permission definition providing a correlation between permissible actions and members of a set of action indicators; and

granting authorization to perform actions on said requested protected system resource to said requesting user if said access control policy permission list includes an appropriate action indicator correlated to an action group tag.

Claim 2 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising providing in an access control policy permission list a plurality of action group tags, each action group tag having one or more associated action indicators, such that resultant granting of authorization to act on said requested protected object is completed if the requested action is allowed by any of the associated action indicators of any of the action groups.

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Claim 3 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim [[2]] 1 wherein said requested protected system resource comprises a computer file sent to a local computer from a remote computer over a computer network further comprising reusing action group permission indicators among action groups such that a finite list of action group permission indicators may be used to control a maximum number of unique permissions equal to the product of the number of unique allowable permission group indicators multiplied by a maximum number of allowable action group tags.

Claim 4 (currently amended):

A method for managing permission indicators for computer system protected objects comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of permission indicator containers in an access control list
~~Access Control List~~;

associating a first set of permission indicators with a primary permission indicator container; and

associating one or more additional sets of permission indicators with additional permission indicator containers, wherein said permission indicators are reused among said containers such that permission indicators may be categorized and grouped logically to facilitate efficient and effective management of security policy control a number of unique permissions less than or equal to the product of a quantity of allowable action indicators and a quantity of allowable action group tags.

Claim 5 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 4 wherein said step of providing a first set of permission indicators comprises providing at least one other (additional) permission indicator set having equivalent permission indicators to said first set such that permission indicators may be assigned unique permissive control according to a permission indicator container with which they are associated.

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Claim 6 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said step of providing an equivalent set of permission indicators comprises providing the characters "a" through "z" and "A" through "Z" as permission indicators.

Claim 7 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim [[5]] 4 further comprising associating an action group tag with a permission indicator container.

Claim 8 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 7 further comprising the step of providing an action group tag with an associated list of permission indicators in an access control list ~~Access Control List~~ entry.

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Claim 9 (currently amended):

A computer readable medium encoded with software ~~[[or]]~~ for extending and grouping actions and permissions for authorization of a requesting user to access or use a requested protected system resource in a computer system, said software ~~when executed causing a computer to perform the performing steps~~ [[of]] comprising:

providing an access control policy associated with said requested protected system resource, ~~said access control policy containing a permission list of permitted identities for use of said protected system resource, said permission list containing~~ and at least one action group tag ~~[[and]]~~ with associated action indicators;

reusing a finite quantity of action indicators among a plurality of action group tags to control a number of unique permissions less than or equal to the product of the quantity of allowable action indicators and a quantity of allowable action group tags;

evaluating said permission list according to a specific permission definition associated with said action group tag, said permission definition providing a correlation between members of a set of action indicators; and

granting authorization to perform actions on said requested protected system resource to said requesting user if said access control policy permission list includes an appropriate action indicator correlated to an action group tag.

Claim 10 (original):

The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising software for providing in an access control policy permission list a plurality of action group tags, each action group tag having one or more associated action indicators, such that resultant granting of authorization to act on said requested protected object is completed if the requested action is allowed by any of the associated action indicators of any of the action groups.

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Claim 11 (currently amended):

The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said requested protected system resource comprises a computer file sent to a local computer from a remote computer over a computer network ~~10 further comprising software for reusing action group indicators among action groups.~~

Claim 12 (currently amended):

A computer readable medium encoded with software for managing permission indicators for computer system protected objects, said software ~~when executed causing a computer to perform the performing steps~~ comprising:

providing a plurality of permission indicator containers in an access control list ~~Access Control List;~~

associating a first set of permission indicators with a primary permission indicator container; and

associating one or more additional sets of permission indicators with additional permission indicator containers, wherein said permission indicators are reused among said containers such that permission indicators may be categorized and grouped logically to ~~facilitate efficient and effective management of security policy~~ control a number of unique permissions less than or equal to the product of a quantity of allowable action indicators and a quantity of allowable action group tags

Claim 13 (original):

The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said software for providing a first set of permission indicators comprises software for providing permission indicators which are equivalent to at least one other (additional) permission indicators such that permission indicators may be assigned unique permissive control according to a permission indicator container with which they are associated.

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Claim 14 (original):

The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said software for providing equivalent permission indicators comprises software for providing a set of permission indicators including the characters "a" through "z" and "A" through "Z".

Claim 15 (currently amended):

The computer readable ~~mediums~~ medium as set forth in Claim 12 further comprising software for associating an action group tag with a permission indicator container.

Claim 16 (currently amended):

The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 15 further comprising software for providing an action group tag with an associated list of permission indicators in an ~~Access Control List~~ access control list entry.

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Claim 17 (currently amended):

An authorization system for extending and grouping actions and permissions for authorization of a requesting user to access or use a requested protected system resource in a computer system, said system comprising:

an access control policy associated with said requested protected system resource, ~~said access control policy~~ having a permission list of permitted identities ~~for use of said protected system resource, and said permission list having~~ and at least one action group tag ~~[[and]] with~~ associated action indicators, wherein a finite quantity of action indicators are reused among a plurality of action group tags to control a number of unique permissions less than or equal to the product of the quantity of allowable action indicators and a quantity of allowable action group tags ;

a permission list evaluator for evaluating an access control policy permission list according to a specific permission definition associated with said action group tag, said permission definition providing a correlation between members of a set of action indicators; and

an authorization grantor adapted to grant authorization to perform actions on said requested protected system resource to said requesting user if said access control policy permission list includes an appropriate action indicator correlated to an action group tag.

Claim 18 (currently amended):

The system as set forth in Claim ~~[[7]]~~ 17 further wherein said access control policy permission list comprises a plurality of action group tags, each action group tag having one or more associated action indicators, such that resultant granting of authorization to act on said requested protected object is completed if the requested action is allowed by any of the associated action indicators of any of the action groups.

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Claim 19 (currently amended):

The system as set forth in Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 17 wherein said requested protected system resource comprises a computer file sent to a local computer from a remote computer over a computer network ~~action group indicators are reusable across action groups such that each action group may define a unique implementation of each reusable action group indicator.~~

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Claim 20 (currently amended):

A system for managing permission indicators for computer system protected objects comprising:

a plurality of permission indicator containers for an access control list ~~Access Control List~~;

a first set of permission indicators associated with a primary permission indicator container; and

one or more additional sets of permission indicators associated with additional permission indicator containers, wherein said permission indicators are reused among said containers such that permission indicators are categorized and grouped logically to facilitate efficient and effective management of security policy control a number of unique permissions less than or equal to the product of a quantity of allowable action indicators and a quantity of allowable action group tags.

Claim 21 (currently amended):

The system as set forth in Claim 20 wherein said ~~[[a]]~~ first set of permission indicators and at least one other (additional) permission indicator set are equivalent permission indicators such that permission indicators are assigned unique permissive control according to the permission indicator container with which they are associated.

Claim 22 (original):

The system as set forth in Claim 21 wherein said equivalent set of permission indicators comprises the characters "a" through "z" and "A" through "Z".

Claim 23 (original):

The system as set forth in Claim 20 further comprising an action group tag associated with a permission indicator container.

Claim 24 (currently amended):

The system as set forth in Claim 23 further comprising an action group tag associated with a list of permission indicators in an access control list ~~Access Control List~~ entry.